

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): ~~Seal in flexible graphite with a metal envelope at high temperature including~~ A seal, comprising:

A a flexible core (10, 40) including flexible graphite; and

A a metal envelope (12, 42) surrounding that surrounds the flexible core[[,]]; and

Characterised

~~by the fact that it includes~~ a sheath (15, 25, 35, 45) that is hermetically sealed, inside of which is placed a unit ~~composed of including the metal envelope(12, 42) and the flexible core(10, 40), wherein~~

~~by the fact that the sheath(15, 25) is in~~ includes two parts welded in a mid plane of the seal, and

~~by the fact that the metal envelope is in~~ includes two cups (12, 42) not completely surrounding the flexible core(10, 40).

Claim 2 (Canceled).

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): ~~Seal~~ The seal according to claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that wherein~~ the inside of the sheath (15, 25, 35, 45) is maintained in a relative vacuum.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): ~~Seal~~ The seal according to claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that wherein~~ the inside of the sheath (15, 25, 35, 45) is maintained in ~~neuter~~ neutral gas.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): ~~Seal~~ The seal according to claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the sheath (15, 25, 35, 45) is metallic.

Claim 6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): ~~Seal according to claim 1 characterised by the fact that~~ A seal, comprising:

a flexible core including flexible graphite;

a metal envelope that surrounds the flexible core; and

a sheath that is hermetically sealed, inside of which is placed a unit including the metal envelope and the flexible core, wherein

the metal envelope includes two cups not completely surrounding the flexible core, and

the sheath (45) is in two parts, includes a higher part (46S) and a lower part (46I) welded at the a level of two edges opposite the edges of a quadrilateral formed by the total seal.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): ~~Seal~~ The seal according to claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the seal unit is of a square section.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): ~~Seal~~ The seal according to claim 1, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the seal unit is of a rectangular section.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): ~~Seal~~ The seal according to claim 9, ~~characterised by the fact that~~ wherein the cups (12, 42) have projections (14, 44) ~~placed~~ located at the ~~a~~ side where the sheath ~~must be~~ is under a load.